

Message Text

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SUBJ: IRA FUND-RAISING IN AMERICA

1. IN SPEECH TO AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN DUBLIN APRIL 21, MINISTER CONOR CRUISE-O'BRIEN APPEALED TO AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN TO OPPOSE IRA EFFORTS TO RAISE FUNDS THROUGH "FRONT ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS 'NORTHERN AID.'" PART OF THE MINISTER'S APPEAL TOOK THE FORM OF A REPLY TO A RECENT INTERVIEW BY PAUL O'DWYER IN THE "IRISH TIMES." O'DWYER HAD SAID THAT MANY IRISH-AMERICANS FEEL ISOLATED AND IGNORED BY THE IRISH, WHO WERE CREATING "A RIFT THAT THE PEOPLE OF IRELAND CANNOT AFFORD TO SEE DEVELOPING." O'DWYER'S INTERVIEW WAS GENERALLY READ HERE AS AN OBLIQUE DEFENSE OF PROVISIONAL IRA TERRORISM, AND CRUISE-O'BRIEN ATTACKED IT AS SUCH.

2. THE MINISTER SAID: "IN IRELAND THE REPUBLICAN TRADITION TO WHICH PAUL O'DWYER AND OTHERS BELONG IS ONE THAT HAS CLAIMED TO SET ITSELF ABOVE DEMOCRACY, AND THE HUMDRUM RESULTS OF DEMOCRACY. THE PEOPLE HAVE NO RIGHT TO BE WRONG, AND REPUBLICANS, HOWEVER SMALL A MINORITY THEY MAY BE IN, HAVE A RIGHT TO CORRECT THE ERRORS OF THE PEOPLE BY FORCE IF NECESSARY. THAT IS THE DOCTRINE NOW BEING APPLIED WITH THE GUN AND THE BOMB BY VARIOUS ARMED GANGS. ...THE LATE ADOLF HITLER, WHILE HIS POLITICAL CAREER WAS DRAWING UNCLASSIFIED

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TO A CLOSE, AMID THE RUINS WHICH IT HAD CAUSED, REFLECTED THAT THE

GERMAN PEOPLE HAD NOT PROVED WORTHY OF HIM. I AM AFRAID THAT THERE IS A GENTELMAN LIVING IN NEW YORK WHO SERIOUSLY BELIEVES THAT THE IRISH PEOPLE ARE NOT PROVING WORTHY OF PAUL O'DWYER."

3. THE AMBASSADOR, SPEAKING AFTER THE MINISTER, ENDORSED HIS APPEAL FOR AN END TO AMERICAN CONTRIBUTIONS TO VIOLENCE (WITHOUT MENTIONING ANY PERSONALITIES). AMBASSADOR SAID THAT HE HAD NOT ALWAYS AGREED WITH CRUISE-O'BRIEN ON EVERY SUBJECT BUT STRONGLY AGREED WITH SPEECHES BY HIM AND OTHER IRISH LEADERS DEPLORING THE RAISING OF FUNDS IN FINANCING OF VIOLENCE. SOME IRISH SYMPATHIZERS IN THE U.S. HAVE APPARENTLY BEEN MISINFORMED AS TO WHAT HAPPENED WHEN THEIR MONEY ARRIVED HERE, IF IT EVER DID ARRIVE. AMBASSADOR APPEALED TO AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN TO MAKE CLEAR THAT PEOPLE WHO WERE NOW DESTROYING IRISH BUSINESSES AND BLOWING THE FACES OFF IRISH GIRLS WITH FUNDS RAISED IN AMERICA WERE NOT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LEGITIMATE CAUSES TO WHICH AMERICANS CONTRIBUTED GENEROUSLY A GENERATION AGO.

4. AFTER THE LUNCHEON, CRUISE-O'BRIEN TOLD US THAT HE WILL TAKE EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK AGAINST IRISH TERRORISM IN A TRIP TO THE U.S. STARTING APRIL 24. WE ASSUME THAT HIS SPEECH TO AMERICAN CHAMBER WAS TIMED TO ENSURE PUBLICITY FOR HIS APPEALS AGAINST IRA FRONTS WHILE IN AMERICA.

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